

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1           1.     A solid-state device comprising:  
2                     a terminal having a plurality of fingers; and  
3                     wherein said fingers are arranged so that the device is heat transfer  
4     balanced.
- 1           2.     The device of Claim 1, wherein said fingers are arranged in a row and  
2     spaced non-uniformly in the row.
- 1           3.     The device of Claim 1, wherein each said finger is associated with a  
2     corresponding one of a plurality of sub-cells, wherein said sub-cells are arranged in a row  
3     and spaced non-uniformly.
- 1           4.     The device of Claim 3, wherein each said sub-cell includes one finger.
- 1           5.     The device of Claim 3, wherein each said sub-cell is associated with one  
2     of a plurality of rows of sub-cells.
- 1           6.     The device of Claim 3, wherein the device has a terminal area defining  
2     opposed edges, and wherein adjacent ones of said sub-cells are spaced a greater distance  
3     at or near a center of the device than at or near the opposed edges.
- 1           7.     The device of Claim 3, wherein a number of fingers in a sub-cell at or near  
2     a center of the device is less than a number of fingers in a sub-cell at or near an edge of a  
3     device.
- 1           8.     The device of Claim 7, wherein the device is an HBT.
- 1           9.     The device of claim 8, wherein the device is a SiGe HBT.

1           10.     The device of Claim 7, wherein the device defines a terminal region and  
2     the terminal region is sized for a high power application.

1           11.     The device of Claim 1, wherein each finger is biased for its maximum  
2     current density during operation.

1           12.     The device of Claim 1, wherein the device defines a layout, and the layout  
2     is a ballasting resistors-free layout.

1           13.     The device of Claim 1, wherein said fingers are emitter fingers.

1           14.     The device of Claim 1, wherein said fingers are arranged so that a peak  
2     oscillation frequency,  $f_{\max}$ , associated with the device is generally independent of the  
3     number of fingers.

1           15.     The device of Claim 1, wherein each said finger is associated with a  
2     corresponding one of a plurality of sub-cells, and wherein said sub-cells are spaced so  
3     that at least one of consecutive adjacent pairs of said sub-cells are spaced differently.

1           16.     A solid-state device comprising:  
2                   a terminal having a plurality of fingers;  
3                   wherein said fingers are arranged so that a peak oscillation frequency,  $f_{\max}$ ,  
4     associated with the device is generally independent of the number of said fingers.

1           17.     The device of Claim 16, wherein said fingers are arranged in a row and  
2     spaced non-uniformly in the row.

1           18.     The device of Claim 16, wherein each said finger is associated with a  
2     corresponding one of a plurality of sub-cells, wherein said sub-cells are arranged in a row  
3     and spaced non-uniformly.

1           19.     The device of Claim 18, wherein said sub-cells are arranged in a plurality  
2 of non-uniformly spaced rows.

1           20.     The device of Claim 18, wherein said sub-cells each includes one finger

1           21.     The device of Claim 17, wherein the device has a terminal area defining  
2 opposed edges, and wherein adjacent ones of said sub-cells are spaced a greater distance  
3 at or near a center of the device than at or near the opposed edges.

1           22.     The device of Claim 16, wherein each finger is biased for its maximum  
2 current density.

1           23.     The device of Claim 16, wherein the device is an HBT, and said fingers  
2 are emitter fingers.

1           24.     A method of producing a high power solid-state device comprising:  
  
2                   providing a substrate for supporting a terminal having a plurality of  
3 fingers; and  
  
4                   arranging the fingers in a plurality of sub-cells defining at least one row so  
5 that the device is heat transfer balanced.

1           25.     The method of Claim 24, wherein said sub-cells are arranged so that  
2 consecutive adjacent pairs of the sub-cells in the at least one row are spaced differently.

1           26.     The method of Claim 24, wherein the at least one row includes a plurality  
2 of rows.

1           27.     The method of Claim 26, wherein the sub-cells between the plurality of  
2 rows are spaced non-uniformly.

1           28.     The method of Claim 24, further comprising determining a number of the  
2     sub-cells and spacings between the sub-cells using a thermal simulation program.

1           29.     The method of Claim 28, wherein the thermal simulation program uses  
2     finite element analysis.

1           30.     The method of Claim 24, wherein the device is one of an HBT and a FET.

1           31.     The method of Claim 24, wherein the device defines a layout that is  
2     ballasting resistors-free.

1           32.     A method of heat transfer balancing a solid-state device, the method  
2     comprising:

3                     arranging a plurality of fingers of a terminal of the device so that a  
4     junction temperature across the device in operation is generally uniform without using  
5     ballasting resistors.

1           33.     The method of Claim 32, wherein each finger is biased for its maximum  
2     current density.

1           34.     The method of Claim 33, wherein the device is an HBT, and the terminal is  
2     an emitter terminal.